Applicants: Corine A. Bickley et al.

U.S. Serial No.: 09/997,298

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated May 17, 2005 Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

The Examiner stated that the Applicants' arguments from a response dated January 24, 2004 are not persuasive in view U.S. Patent No. 5,909,023 (Ono) because Ono discusses that voice guidance from the server may be added to further improve user services (Page 2, para 1 of the May 17, 2005 Office Action) and the Examiner believes this suggests a voice activated interface. Applicants respectfully assert that the voice activated interfaces recited in the claims are not suggested by the voice guidance discussed in Ono.

Independent claims 1, 16, 29, 36, 43 and 50 are patentable over Ono because Ono does not teach, disclose or suggest a voice activated interface to access an application and invoke any of a plurality of services. Ono discusses that voice guidance from a server may be added to improve user services (Col. 11 lines 1-2). The voice guidance in Ono is one-way communication from the server to the user. In contrast, each of claims 1, 16, 29, 36, 43 and 50 recite providing, or apparatus configured to provide, a voice activated interface to access an application and to invoke any of a plurality of application services. The recited voice activated interfaces in claims 1, 16, 29, 36, 43 and 50 are different from the voice guidance discussed in Ono because voice activated interfaces are activated by voice from a user, while voice guidance relates to voice sent to a user. For at least these reasons, claims 1, 16, 29, 36, 43 and 50 are patentable over Ono.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-9, 14, 16-19, 21, 23, 28-32, 34, 36-39, 41, 43-46, and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ono. The rejections to these claims in this Office Action are identical to the rejections raised in the October 27, 2004 Office Action. Applicants respectfully assert that these claims are patentable for at least the reasons stated above in combination with the Applicants' January 24, 2005 response.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 5, 7, 10, 11, 12, 15, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 33, 35, 40, 42, 47, 49, and 50-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious under Ono, in view a combination of additional references including: U.S. Patent No. 6,266,649 (Linden), U.S. Patent No. 6,298,330 (Gardenswartz), U.S. Patent No. 6,298,329 (Walker), U.S. Patent No. 5,646,986 (Sahni), U.S. Patent No. 6,584,447 (Fox), U.S. Patent No. 6,330,543 (Kepecs) and U.S. Patent No. 56,377,927 (Loghmani). Applicants respectfully assert that these claims are patentable for at least the reasons stated above in combination with the Applicants' January 24, 2005 response.

Based on the foregoing, this application is believed to be in an allowable condition, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' Attorney at the number provided below with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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